IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) An integrity checking system having independent integrity checking, the system comprising:

a conveyor belt for conveying packs through the system;

a scale associated with the conveyor belt that weighs packs while they move on the conveyor belt;

checkweigher logic coupled to the scale for determining whether a pack is within a desired weight range;

a pack reject device controlled by the checkweigher logic that rejects packs outside the desired weight range;

integrity checking logic independent from the checkweigher logic; and

multiple sensors that are independent from the checkweigher logic and provide information to the independent integrity checking logic regarding movement of the packs through the checkweigher system.

12. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 11 wherein the sensors comprise photo-eyes positioned along the conveyor.

13. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 11 wherein a first sensor comprises a photo-eye that detects pack skew prior to weighing.

14. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 13 wherein the first sensor further detects packs too closely spaced for proper weighing.

15. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 11 wherein a second sensor detects whether a pack is properly traveling down a reject path.

16. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 15 wherein the second sensor further detects backups on the reject path.

17. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 11 wherein a third sensor detects whether a pack is traveling down an accept path.

18. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 17 wherein the third sensor detects whether the accept path is blocked.

19. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 11 wherein a fourth sensor detects whether the reject device has sufficient air pressure.

20. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 11 wherein the independent integrity checking logic is operable to generate multiple messages regarding the integrity of the integrity checking system.

21. (Original) The checkweigher system of claim 11 wherein the independent integrity checking logic is operable to shut down the conveyor belt.

22. (Previously Presented) A method of checking the integrity of a checkweigher independent of checkweigher logic, the method comprising:

independently sensing a pack on a conveyor line of the checkweigher;

determining if the pack is skewed based on a length of time that the pack is sensed;

determining if consecutive packs are too closely spaced to obtain a proper weight based on a length of time between sensing the consecutive packs; and

providing a message independent of the checkweigher logic representative of such determinations.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22 and further comprising providing a reject signal to a reject device if either determination is positive.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23 and further comprising independently detecting if a pack was properly rejected.

25. (Original) The method of claim 22 and further comprising independently detecting if a properly rejected pack is blocking a reject path.

26. (Original) The method of claim 22 and further comprising independently detecting if a pack was properly accepted.

27. (Previously Presented) A method of checking the integrity of a checkweigher that measures the weight of packs while moving on a conveyor belt, the method using logic independent from the checkweigher logic, the method comprising:

receiving accept and reject signals from the checkweigher based on the checkweigher's measurements of the packs;

independently from the checkweigher logic, determining if the packs were properly positioned on the conveyor for weighing;

receiving sensor signals independent of the checkweigher logic indicative of whether packs are properly accepted or rejected in accordance with the accept and reject signals; and

generating messages regarding the integrity of the checkweigher system based on a comparison of the sensor signals and the accept and reject signals received from the checkweigher.

28. (Original) The method of claim 27 and further comprising generating a reject signal if it is determined that a pack is not properly positioned on the conveyor.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28 and further comprising logging rejected packs.

30. (Original) The method of claim 29 and further comprising generating a message if ten packs in a row were rejected.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29 and further comprising generating a message if ten of the last thirty packs were rejected.

32. (Original) The method of claim 27 and further comprising detecting if packs are backed up in various positions on the conveyor.

33. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the messages are selected from a group consisting of warnings, fatal errors and nonfatal faults.

34. (Original) The method of claim 27 wherein the messages are representative of faults selected from the list consisting of pack skew, insufficient gap, checkweigher response fault, checkweigher locked on, checkweigher locked off, air pressure fault, ten rejected in a row, ten of thirty rejected, pack not rejected, pack not accepted, photo-eye failure, line backup, and reject bin overflow.

35. (Previously Presented) A kit for installing on a checkweigher to check the integrity of the checkweigher, the kit comprising:

a plurality of sensors that are independent of the checkweigher for use on the checkweigher to sense packs on a conveyor line of the checkweigher; and

a computer readable medium having instructions for causing a computer that is independent of the checkweigher to receive sensing information from the independent sensors, determine if the pack is skewed based on a length of time that the pack is sensed, determine if

consecutive packs are too closely spaced to obtain a proper weight based on a length of time between sensing the consecutive packs; and provide a message independent of the checkweigher representative of such determinations.

36. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 35 and further comprising an air pressure switch.

37. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 35 and further comprising a computer that executes the instructions and provides a display of the message.

38. (Previously Presented) A kit for installing on a checkweigher to check the integrity of the checkweigher, the kit comprising:

a plurality of sensors that are independent of the checkweigher for use on the checkweigher to sense packs on a conveyor line of the checkweigher;

a computer that is independent of the checkweigher for coupling to the independent sensors, the computer having a display device, the computer receiving sensed information from the independent sensors, determining if the pack is skewed based on a length of time that the pack is sensed, determining if consecutive packs are too closely spaced to obtain a proper weight based on a length of time between sensing the consecutive packs; and providing a message independent of the checkweigher representative of such determinations.

39. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 38 and further comprising a pressure switch, and wherein the independent sensors comprise three photo-eye sensors with reflectors.

40. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 39 wherein the computer comprises dedicated hardware, logic or a programmable logic controller.

41. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having instructions for causing a computer that is independent of a checkweigher to execute a method of checking the integrity of the checkweigher, the method comprising:

independently from the checkweigher, sensing a pack on a conveyor line of the checkweigher;

determining if the pack is skewed based on a length of time that the pack is sensed;

determining if consecutive packs are too closely spaced to obtain a proper weight based on a length of time between sensing the consecutive packs; and

providing a message independent of the checkweigher representative of such determinations.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 41 wherein the method further comprises independently detecting if a pack was properly rejected.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 41 wherein the method further comprises independently detecting if a properly rejected pack is blocking a reject path.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 41 wherein the method further comprises independently detecting if a pack was properly accepted.

45. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having instructions for causing a computer that is independent of a checkweigher to execute a method of checking the integrity of the checkweigher that measures the weight of packs while moving on a conveyor belt, the method using logic independent from the checkweigher comprising:

receiving accept and reject signals from the checkweigher based on the checkweigher's measurements of the packs;

independently from the checkweigher, determining if the packs were properly positioned on the conveyor for weighing;

receiving sensor signals independent of the checkweigher indicative of whether packs are properly accepted or rejected in accordance with the accept and reject signals; and

generating messages regarding the integrity of the checkweigher system based on a comparison of the sensor signals and the accept and reject signals received from the checkweigher.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the method further comprises generating a reject signal if it is determined that a pack is not properly positioned on the conveyor.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the method further comprises logging rejected packs.

48. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the method further comprises generating a message if ten packs in a row were rejected.

49. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the method further comprises generating a message if ten of the last thirty packs were rejected.

50. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the method further comprises detecting if packs are backed up in various positions on the conveyor.

51. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the messages are selected from a group consisting of warnings, fatal errors and nonfatal faults.

52. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 45 wherein the messages are representative of faults selected from the list consisting of pack skew, insufficient gap, checkweigher response fault, checkweigher locked on, checkweigher locked off, air pressure fault, ten rejected in a row, ten of thirty rejected, pack not rejected, pack not accepted, photo-eye failure, line backup, and reject bin overflow.

53. (Previously Presented) A kit for installing on a checkweigher to check the integrity of the checkweigher, the kit being independent of checkweigher logic and comprising:

a plurality of sensors that are independent of the checkweigher for use on the checkweigher to sense packs on a conveyor line of the checkweigher; and

a computer readable medium having instructions for causing a computer that is independent from the checkweigher to:

receive accept and reject signals from the checkweigher based on the checkweigher's measurements of the packs;

independently from the checkweigher determine if the packs were properly positioned on the conveyor for weighing;

receive sensor signals independent of the checkweigher indicative of whether packs are properly accepted or rejected in accordance with the accept and reject signals; and

generate messages regarding the integrity of the checkweigher system based on a comparison of the sensor signals and the accept and reject signals received from the checkweigher.

54. (Previously Presented) The kit of claim 53 and wherein the generate message comprises a reject signal.